

University of Mississippi

eGrove

Daily Mississippian

9-3-2020

September 3, 2020

The Daily Mississippian

Follow this and additional works at: <https://egrove.olemiss.edu/thedmonline>

Recommended Citation

The Daily Mississippian, "September 3, 2020" (2020). *Daily Mississippian*. 60.
<https://egrove.olemiss.edu/thedmonline/60>

This Newspaper is brought to you for free and open access by eGrove. It has been accepted for inclusion in Daily Mississippian by an authorized administrator of eGrove. For more information, please contact egrove@olemiss.edu.

‘It’s not fair’:

Some CAs worry that their health is threatened by lack of transparency in housing

KENNETH NIEMEYER
thedmnews@gmail.com

As outbreaks continue to rise in student housing, community assistants are facing a new set of challenges this year. They are responsible for making sure students wear masks and social distance inside dorms, but many say their environments are not safe, and they aren’t being equipped with enough information or resources to do their job effectively. Community assistants (CAs) often feel the brunt of every

issue that impacts students on campus. Whether it’s someone struggling with their homework, racially charged protests on campus or a global pandemic, these student workers are often on the front-lines of keeping students safe and helping them cope, even when putting themselves at risk. “This is not a new thing,” one CA said. “Two years ago, when the protests were coming to campus, and there were threats made against certain students and

SEE ‘IT’S NOT FAIR’ PAGE 3



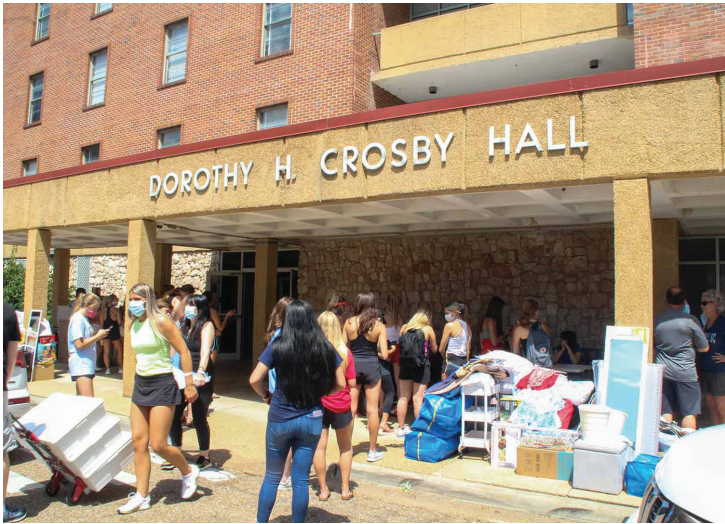
ILLUSTRATION: KATHERINE BUTLER / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Students quarantine in dorms

KENNETH NIEMEYER
thedmnews@gmail.com

Students on the second and third floors of Crosby Hall say they are being told to quarantine in place after at least three people on each floor tested positive for COVID-19. While the UM COVID-19 dashboard states that on-campus quarantine beds are at 39.8% availability, it is unclear if the university is offering quarantine housing to the Crosby residents.

The UM COVID-19 Dashboard shows 50 student hous-



FILE PHOTO: KATHERINE BUTLER / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Some CA's feel that they can not do their job effectively without telling their residents about when someone tests positive for COVID-19.

ing residents in quarantine, 29 student housing residents in isolation and 16 outbreaks of three or more positive cases in on campus housing.

Elena Ossoski, a freshman English education major and Crosby second floor resident,

decided to quarantine with her friend who has a house in Oxford, rather than stay in Crosby.

“The email was very vague but our community assistants

SEE QUARANTINE PAGE 12

Ole Miss among teams to march for racial justice

KELBY ZENDEJAS
thedmnews@gmail.com

On the 65th anniversary of Emmett Till’s death, the Ole Miss football team skipped their scheduled Friday practice morning to protest on the Square instead. The goal of the march on Aug. 28 was to raise awareness for police brutality after the shooting of Jacob Blake, a Black man who was shot by police in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

Head coach Lane Kiffin and athletic director Keith Carter were present during the march as well as what

appeared to be the entire Ole Miss football team and coaching staff.

“I met with our leadership council last night and asked how they wanted to make their voices heard,” Kiffin said. “It was a good discussion, and this morning the team decided to march in unity and use their platform to send a message. I’m proud of our players coming together for justice and change. We are going to continue to work together to improve the world around us for everyone.”

SEE PROTEST PAGE 8



JOSHUA MANNERY: AN ASB PRESIDENT UNDECIDED

As people across Oxford and in the Lyceum are watching COVID-19 cases rise at UM, here’s how student body president Joshua Mannery is navigating his role as a Black student leader during the pandemic.

SEE PAGE 2



HOW SOME STUDENTS ARE DEALING WITH IMPACT OF HURRICANE LAURA

As Hurricane Laura hits the Gulf Coast, some UM students are beginning to witness the impact in their hometowns and in the lives of family and friends.

SEE PAGE 7

A president undecided: Joshua Mannery navigates role during the pandemic

HADLEY HITSON
thedmnews@gmail.com

When Joshua Mannery won the race for student body president in April, he knew he would play a different role than past presidents. The world had already been plunged into disaster aversion from the COVID-19 pandemic, and the University of Mississippi was in the beginning throes of managing virtual classes. In the weeks following, Mannery launched into advocacy work, marching in protests for the relocation (not glorification) of the Confederate monument on campus and leading the student discussion about how the university community would address racial issues moving forward from the murder of George Floyd on May 25. “From May 25 until probably about June 10, was a time that was very important to me,” he said. “I’m not going to bring in some sort of spiritual notion that I was supposed to be president at that time, but I think having an African-American male serving and leading a university like the University of Mississippi helped this community find its voice and its perspective about everything that’s going on.” However, as students have returned to Oxford and protests surrounding the university’s monument have died down, Mannery has found himself questioning what responsibilities he can or should take on during the COVID-19 pandemic. “There is no precedent that says your ASB president needs to be this or to be that. At this time, I know a lot of people are pointing fingers, are advocating, are trying to be educators, and are trying to lead amongst everything that’s happening. It’s hard for me to know exactly what role I need to play,” Mannery said. “Do I need to be pushing the university to do better? Do I need to be trying to educate the student body about things they should be doing? Am I supposed to be like the student who takes one for the team and tells students what they shouldn’t do?” Amid his confliction, though, Mannery is trying his best to empathize with other students and explain the student perspective to

university administrators. “I think there’s been a lack of messaging going out from some of our senior leadership and a lack of humanity in a lot of things that have been going out,” he said. “I think that element is definitely needed.” Apart from the semi-regular emails regarding “updates on COVID-19 cases on campus” from University Marketing & Communications, university-wide messaging about the pandemic since school began on Aug. 24 has mainly consisted of one statement from Chancellor Glenn Boyce on Sept. 1. In Boyce’s email, he stated that the number of active cases, currently 295, is “considered in conjunction with other metrics such as capacity of hospital beds” at Baptist Memorial Hospital-North Mississippi or “in tandem with availability of designated isolation or quarantine space on campus.” University provided quarantine bed availability is 31.3%, and isolation bed availability is 74.6%. Other messaging from senior officials like Provost Noel Wilkin has been distributed via social media and includes tweets encouraging students to wear masks and use the university’s contact tracing app. “The university is doing what it can, or some of the things it can to have us back, but there are some noticeable things that we can’t do or that we aren’t doing that makes me not feel fully confident in our ability to sustain a semester up to Thanksgiving break,” Mannery said. “I’m trying to be as understanding as possible because I know it’s not easy making these decisions as administrators.” One of the things Mannery said he wishes the university would have done differently was including more student leaders in the creation of the university’s Campus Ready plan, which details the health and safety protocols, initial guidelines for student programming like Greek recruitment, expectations for students on campus and punishments for noncompliance. “It was kind of jarring to then be asked to be a part of the public education and awareness aspect of it all because we didn’t have the context of the decisions that were made about the things we



PHOTOS: BILLY SCHUERMAN / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

ASB President Joshua Mannery has found new ways to navigate his position as a Black student leader in the university community.

were pushing out,” Mannery said. “Going forward, I think we need to have a more pronounced role in these kinds of things if we’re going to expect them to succeed.” Mannery also said “there is definitely some truth” to the idea that the university is placing an excessive amount of the responsibility to slow the spread of COVID-19 onto student leaders. Still, he said that he and other student leaders like Black Student Union president Nicholas Crasta are glad to take on the responsibility where they can. “We, as student leaders, understand the importance of this moment, and we are more than willing to serve in that role if it encourages more students to comply,” Mannery said. “They’re asking for a lot of perspective from a small sample size of student leaders, so I do think there’s room to bring in way more people, more students to the table.” One of the ways that Mannery has attempted to involve more students in slowing the rising COVID-19 case count on campus is through the campus “Are You Ready?” pledge. Mannery worked



with ASB vice president Abby Johnston, Interfraternity Council president Cole Barnhill, College Panhellenic president Shelby D’Amico and BSU president Crasta to develop the pledge with the goal of giving students and community members a way to “buy in” to the idea of public health and safety guidelines. According to Mannery, the pledge has approximately 3,500 signatures. The main problem in the university community that the pandemic has put on display is a lack of shared identity, according

to Mannery, and if the university has to shut down before the end of the semester, he believes that will be why. “We can point at faults in administration and their plans. We can point out faults in students, and some of them are taking it a little too far, still having parties and stuff. All of that is valid,” Mannery said. “There are things everybody can do to be better and do better, but at the end of the day, if we are not all in this together and invested in the same desire to protect each other, it’s kind of destined to fail.”

EDHE 320 FALL II

Internship Exploration – Internship and job prep course open to all majors

THE WORKPLACE HAS CHANGED. LEARN TO ADAPT.

Gain skills to secure virtual, in-person, local, or out-of-state internships.

**are you
internship
ready?**

**internship
experience**
at The University of Mississippi*

REGISTER THROUGH myOleMiss

'IT'S NOT FAIR'

continued from page 1

organizations, there was a lot more work put on housing. We had to do extra rounds; there was more security. It was the same kind of situation. You think, ‘Yes, this is bad, and we’re being asked to put ourselves at risk a little bit, but we still get to live here.’”

When their virtual training started this fall, CAs had questions about how student housing planned to handle the COVID-19 pandemic that many felt the department never answered.

“50% of our problems come from lack of transparency from leadership and the other 50% comes from the fact that there are a lot of unknowns or answers of ‘I don’t know’ when you ask leadership questions, even though we were told to come back to campus during a global pandemic,” CA Mister Clemmones wrote on Facebook. “I hope I don’t get fired from this, but it’s the truth, we are scared and it needed to be said.”

The CAs quoted in this story were offered anonymity because student housing has strict rules against student workers speaking to the media.

In an email obtained by The Daily Mississippian, Nequel Burlwell, assistant director of student housing for residential learning, urged CAs not to tell students in their building when other residents test positive for COVID-19 because it is a violation of HIPPA and FERPA to share students’ medical information. The email also said CAs could be held liable with job action if they share it.

One CA said they did not feel they could do their job effectively without telling residents when someone in the building tests positive for COVID-19, adding that if they don’t give specifics about who the person is, they believe it would not be a violation of HIPPA or FERPA.

“We should be able to say that we have this number of cases in the building because they have a right to know that their environment is being compromised,” the CA said. Initially, students were not allowed to quarantine in their rooms. As quarantine bed space became more limited, more outbreaks arose on campus and the Mississippi State Department of Health issued new guidance on quarantining students, the university began allowing them to quarantine in their dorm rooms. The university’s COVID-19 dashboard now shows 16



FILE PHOTO: BILLY SCHUERMAN / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

outbreaks in student housing. Multiple dorm buildings across campus have more than one entire floor in quarantine, including CAs. With the quarantined CAs unable to work, others are having to work much longer hours. Director of Student Housing John Yaun said that the university is trying to ensure that CAs do not work more than the 20 hours they are paid for each week. “Through my conversations with (Associate Director for Residential Learning Jeannie Hopper), she is working to make sure that they’re able to stay within those hours per week because we don’t want to overwork them,” Yaun said. Some CAs have expressed the desire for hazard pay because they believe they are being asked to work in unsafe conditions. A CA told The Daily Mississippian that there were dead cockroaches scattered throughout the hallways, and many hand sanitizer stations were unfilled when they moved into their dorm in August. Another said they held their breath while doing rounds on a floor where they knew some students tested positive for COVID-19. “Knowing what we know and still coming back and still taking the

job, I think, not just us, but our maintenance staff, our (janitorial) staff and anybody who works closely with a lot of students should be getting hazard pay,” one CA said. “They did tell us we were getting a \$1 raise, but it only applies to overtime (front desk) hours, and international students don’t qualify because they can’t work overtime hours.” According to Yaun, student housing has implemented a number of safety protocols to keep CAs safe this fall. “We have kits available with hand sanitizer and gloves that we provide, and we try to ask students to distance, even between each other when they’re walking rounds in the building,” Yaun said. “We also have plexiglass set up at each front desk, so there’s that barrier between them as well.” Yaun also said that CAs do not have to perform rounds on floors with quarantined students, and the university plans to monitor those floors using security cameras. A CA in a building with multiple floors quarantined said that quarantined students can leave their rooms to go to the bathroom or go outside for fresh air.

“We can’t really enforce that, though. They could just go somewhere, and we wouldn’t know,” they said. While the university provides some safety equipment such as masks, gloves and hand sanitizer, CAs said that some supplies can run low quickly. One said that their building’s front desk runs out of masks almost daily because they hand them out to students who walk into the building or come out of the elevator without one. Getting freshman students to comply with COVID-19 safety protocols, especially wearing masks, has proven to be a challenge for CAs. “It’s hard because I don’t like to yell at my residents, but I started yelling at them,” one CA said. “You have to kind of say it in a stern voice, or they’re not going to care.” Many CAs resigned this summer and into the fall, and some buildings still have unstaffed positions. Yaun said that he is confident in student housing’s ability to fill all of its CA positions, but the department would look to recruit more staff if deemed necessary. Laura Stephens, a former CA from Martin Hall, also resigned this

summer because she was afraid that she would have nowhere to go if student housing closed again. “I just really could not risk not having a job in the middle of the year, and then not having a place to live,” Stephens said. “Because I don’t live with my parents, my place to live is kind of limited, and I also didn’t want to risk getting sick.”

Stephens said resigning was a very difficult decision for her, but in the end, the risk out-weighed the benefit.

“I cried about it a lot when I was making the decision because I definitely loved being a CA, and I loved being there for those girls,” Stephens said. “It just ended up making way more sense, financially, for me to not come back.”

In March, when the university transitioned to online learning, student housing continued to pay CAs throughout the semester even though they were not working in residence halls. However, some CAs are worried that the university will stop paying them if dorm buildings close this fall, and have cited a clause in the community assistant employment agreement that says the contract can be amended without the CA re-signing it.

“They’ve said that if the school closes, and we’re sent home, that CAs will continue to be paid, but then they’ve also said ‘we’ll try to keep you on the payroll as long as possible,’ and it’s like, well, which is it?” one CA said.

When asked by The Daily Mississippian, Yaun did not want to answer if the department will continue to pay CAs in the event of a student housing shutdown. “I don’t want to speculate forward on about if we close the halls,” Yaun said. “I think what we’re doing is we’ve got a number of really good protocols and parameters in place, and I think that we’ll continue to monitor those and be mindful of those, and just really take this one day at a time.”

Though many CAs have resigned, some of them believe that the ones still working are at least partially dependent on their job with the university because they rely on their housing scholarship to help pay for tuition costs and living expenses.

“CAs are dropping fast because it’s not fair, but it is what it is, and I still need the scholarship money to help me out,” one CA said. “Some people need this job, and they enjoy this job, but in the circumstances we’re being given, it’s very difficult to feel like we’re being heard or cared about.”

THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN EDITORIAL STAFF

ELIZA NOE
editor-in-chief
dmeditor@gmail.com

HADLEY HITSON
managing editor
dmmanaging@gmail.com

KENNETH NIEMEYER
executive news editor
thedmnews@gmail.com

KELBY ZENDEJAS
sports editor
thedmsports@gmail.com

JAMES MINZESHEIMER
assistant sports editor
thedmsports@gmail.com

BILLY SCHUERMAN
photography editor
thedmphotos@gmail.com

KATIE DANES
opinion editor
thedmopinion@gmail.com

KATHERINE BUTLER
visuals editor
thedmvisuals@gmail.com

KATE KIMBERLIN
design editor
thedmdesign@gmail.com

ARIANNA SWENSEN
online editor
thedmonlineeditor@gmail.com

MADDY QUON
assistant news editor
thedmnews@gmail.com

When it is decided that The Daily Mississippian will take an editorial stance on an issue, the following positions will make decisions as the Editorial Board: editor-in-chief, managing editor, copy chief, sports editor and opinion editor.

S. GALE DENLEY STUDENT MEDIA CENTER

PATRICIA THOMPSON
Assistant Dean/Student Media

ATISH BAIDYA
Associate Director/Editorial

ROY FROSTENSON
Assistant Director/Advertising

CONNOR PLATT
Advertising Sales Manager
dmads@olemiss.edu

SALES ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
Cayman Rigdon
Cole Sanford

FOLLOW US



THE DM INSTAGRAM
[@thedailymississippian](#)

THE DM NEWS TWITTER
[@thedm_news](#)

THE DM SPORTS TWITTER
[@thedm_sports](#)

THE DM DESIGN TWITTER
[@thedm_visuals](#)

**And then there was one:
commission narrows down flag search**

ELIZA NOE

thedmnews@gmail.com

It has been almost two months since Mississippi legislators passed a resolution to remove the old state flag from its position, and now the state flag commission has narrowed down the search for a new state flag to the final choice. .

“When you fly a flag up a flagpole, it sure does look different than it does on paper,” said former state Supreme Court Justice Reuben Anderson after the choice was

narrowed to the two options. Anderson is the chairman of the nine-member flag commission.

The final winner features a magnolia flag in the center, surrounded by stars. It also includes the phrase "In God We Trust," which was a legislated requirement for any of the thousands of original submissions.

Mississippi's former flag featured the Confederate battle emblem in the top left corner, which drew criticism



PHOTO COURTESY: MDAH

because of its lasting ties to slavery and the Lost Cause ideology. After the deaths of

George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and others, subsequent protests this summer pushed law-

makers into reaching the decision to change it.

The University of Mississippi has not flown the state flag on campus since 2015.

The 21 stars on the flag are symbolic to Mississippi. One is dedicated to Native American tribes and the other twenty in reference to Mississippi's status as the 20th state in the Union.

The final flag will be featured on the Nov. 3 ballot for Mississippians to accept or deny.

How the university is allowing students to take their online classes on campus

AALIYAH GOLDMAN

thedmnews@gmail.com

As a result of most classes going online because of the COVID-19 pandemic, remote and in-person classes are proving to be a challenge to some students.

Many students have to balance remote and in-person classes back to back, making it difficult for them to make it to their in-person classes on time.

Before the fall semester even began, sophomore finance major Kylie Harrier foresaw these struggles and came up with the idea of “Zoom rooms” to help lessen the conflict.

“The Zoom (room) idea came as I was looking at my schedule,” Harrier said. “[I was] wondering how I would be able to take a Zoom class in-between my original two in-person classes.”

Zoom rooms are spaces on campus that students can use for remote classes. They are mainly for students who do not have a great environment where they can complete schoolwork, whether because of poor internet service, home-life conditions or other distractions. The Zoom rooms allow them to get their work done in a quiet and non-distracting environment.

Harrier took her idea to junior international studies major Katie Williamson, who is a part of the Keep Learning committee on campus.

The committee was created to make sure that “(the university is still fulfilling its mission), which is to give students their degree or education, while we are dealing with the challenges of the pandemic,” Williamson said.

Williamson acknowledged that there are many reasons that students might want to utilize the spaces.

“Students like Kylie Harrier brought the concern that if they had one class that was online at 2 p.m. to 2:50, but then they have a class on campus at 3,” Williamson said, “and they don’t have time to get to campus to park and get set up.”

The biggest challenge in making it happen was finding a place to put the rooms, but after that, it was smooth sailing for the idea.

In a letter from Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Charlotte Pegues mentioned the locations of the Zoom rooms and their seating availability: Tad Smith Coliseum (20 spaces), Yerby Lobby Area (22 spaces), Lamar 208 (8 spaces), Lamar 315 (8 spaces), Hume 113 (9 spaces), Bondurant E114 (5 spaces) and Bondurant 116W (10 spaces).

Junior communication sciences and disorders major Kayla Pritchett said she has

found the Zoom rooms to be very useful. Because Pritchett had a class on Zoom at 12 p.m. and an in-person class at 1, she could not do her Zoom class anywhere else besides on campus.

Pritchett said she thought her experience in the room was great and decided to use it every Friday.

"I was the only student at the time there. They had a very large desk with plugins for phones or computers. It was very quiet," Pritchett said. "Nobody was walking in the hallways or anything. I had a really good view of campus while using the room."

Williamson said she hopes that students will use the rooms regularly.

"I would want to see the number of the people that actually use it, but if nobody knows about it, then it is not going to get used," Williamson said. "The more people

that know about it, the more potential it will have. The jury is still out on whether it was a good initiative or not. But just because people do not use it as a resource, it is not a reason for us not to provide it.”

Williamson hopes that students will continue to utilize the resources that the Keep Learning committee is providing across campus.

"I want students to know that their concerns are important; even though we have so many people that are working to keep the university running smoothly through something that you've never faced in the past hundred years," Williamson said. "Things like that will definitely show you the little cracks in (the system), so you might not think that your perspective is important to anybody, but it is because they probably wouldn't have this resource."

NOW ACCEPTING
OLE MISS
Flex®

PIZZA
PAPA JOHN'S®
INDEPENDENTLY
OWNED & OPERATED

PROUD PARTNER
with OLE MISS DINING
Sun.-Wed. 10:30am-Midnight, Thurs.-Sat. 10:30am-2:00am

GENERAC®

**Prepare for
power outages
with a Generac
home standby
generator**

**SCHEDULE YOUR FREE IN-HOME
ASSESSMENT TODAY!**

844-316-8630

FREE

7-Year Extended Warranty*
A \$695 Value!

Offer valid March 16, 2020 - Sept 6, 2020

Special Financing Available

Subject to Credit Approval

***Terms & Conditions Apply**

A large, white, rectangular Generac home standby generator is shown from a three-quarter perspective. The unit has a clean, modern design with horizontal ventilation slats on the right side. The "GENERAC" logo is printed in black on the front panel. In the background, a two-story suburban house is visible at dusk or night, with its interior lights glowing through the windows.

38015

Students struggle to navigate proctoring service

MADDY QUON
thedmnnews@gmail.com

After a long day of classes and meetings, junior psychology major Meredith Brown sat down in the computer lab in the JD Williams Library to take her social psychology exam on Proctorio. What Brown didn't expect was to fall asleep just a few minutes after starting. When she woke up, she felt disoriented and confused as to why she was in a computer lab.

"It struck me: I was in the midst of taking a 100-point exam, and there was only one minute remaining with nearly 40 questions still left to answer," Brown said. "I entered full panic-mode and began filling in as many bubbles as I could without thinking too deeply about my responses in desperation to finish. It felt like a college student's worst nightmare."

The university decided to use the Google Chrome extension Proctorio in March as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Teachers previously used the testing lab in the Jackson Avenue Center and ProctorU, but with ProctorU unable to scale their service to meet the demand from many universities going online at the same time, Proctorio was the best decision for UM.

According to Brian Hopkins, the deputy chief information officer for academic technology, the university paid \$182,790 for a license that allows unlimited tests and test takers from March 17 this year to March 16, 2021. The Division of Outreach paid for this, not increasing any fees charged to students.

While Proctorio was used for last semester, students have raised concerns about the testing platform for multiple reasons, from violating privacy to crashing constantly. Senior Kelby Howell said that when she was taking exams at home, Proctorio would crash fairly often.

"My hometown still does not have broadband internet, so it is extremely hard to complete school work from home," Howell said. "The service crashed frequently during my tests, and I would always have to reach out to my professors and get them to reset it, praying it wouldn't happen a second time."

Howell said another issue she had was data storage. She said when she was looking into how long Proctorio held onto student information, she couldn't find an answer, which concerned her.

According to Proctorio's privacy policy, "all student records obtained by Proctorio from an institution are the property of and are under control of that institution." According to the UM Policy on Grade Appeal, faculty mem-



ILLUSTRATION: KATHERINE BUTLER / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

bers are required to hold onto grade-related materials -- including data from Proctorio -- until the end of the next semester.

"For instructional data, which would include Proctorio data, the basic idea is that data should not be deleted until we're quite sure there will be no business purpose for looking at/for this data," Hopkins wrote in an email. "For instance, UM policy allows students to appeal grades after the term ends and grades are posted. Data from Proctorio may be needed during this appeal process and so must be retained."

Charles Fleming, an assistant professor of computer and information science, said that while he does not believe Proctorio to be an invasion of privacy, he wouldn't recommend running the extension when it's not being used.

"Because (Proctorio) can record my keystrokes, I could be sitting here typing an email in Gmail, and it could be recording that," Fleming said. "So what I tell my students is if you're worried about security, install it while taking a test, and then as soon as you finish taking the exam, uninstall it. Once you uninstall it, [Proctorio] can't do anything because it's not installed anymore."

Hopkins wrote that while students may believe Proctorio is an invasion of privacy, it's in fact less invasive than if one was to take an exam in-person. Proctorio makes a video recording of the student taking the exam and runs it through an artificial intelligence system that scores the behavior and flags any moments that the AI would consider to be suspicious behavior, in turn reporting this to the professor so they can go back and make an informed decision on the flagged behavior.

"It is true, then, that the student is in some sense 'watched' while taking the exam, but the primary watcher is a bot, and many students will take many exams without any live human

ever watching them at all," Hopkins wrote. "This is in contrast to in-person exams or those proctored by a service like ProctorU, in which the student would be watched by a live person continuously during the whole exam."

Students are not the only ones who are having issues with Proctorio. Some professors are opting out of using it, instead choosing either using the honor system or watching their students take exams over a Zoom call.

"Unfortunately, Proctorio does not seem to be user friendly or have the customer service needed as all schools go online. I have tried troubleshooting with faculty and the university and the solutions we have come up with

do not seem to work for all users," one professor's email read.

While some professors are opting out of using Proctorio, most are sticking with it. Fleming said that he thinks professors need to be flexible and accommodating for students who do happen to run into issues.

"Personally, I'm at my computer from the time students start the exam until the last student finishes, waiting to help resolve test-taking issues," Fleming said. "If students completed the practice exam and still have problems during the test, I can help them get back up and running, and then give them an individual time extension, to make up for the lost time."

STATE HEALTH INSURANCE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SHIP)

INFORMATION

Unbiased, confidential, trusted information

COUNSELING

Trained counselors are available in all 82 counties

ASSISTANCE

Walking you through Medicare



Counselors can discuss:

- Medicare Part C: Advantage Plans
- Medicare Part D: Prescription Drug Plans
- Financial Assistance for Low-Income Beneficiaries
- Billing Issues, Appeals, Denials, and Grievances
- Medicare Fraud and Abuse
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Community Presentation Requests

Counselors can get answers to:

- Out of Pocket Expenses
- Eligibility Criteria
- Coverage Gaps
- Who Pays First
- Financial Help with Copays
- Medicare Fraud
- Your Rights



Call: 844-822-4622

Email: SHIP@mdhs.ms.gov

This publication/project was supported by Grant Number 90SAPG0034-02-01 from the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Should you have any questions about SHIP please feel free to call 844-822-4622.

**YOU DONT WANT
THEM RESPONDING
TO YOUR TEXT.**



BILLY SCHUERMAN
thedmphotos@gmail.com

In the face of a pandemic the University of Mississippi facilities management team has vamped up its efforts to fight the spread.



It takes a village



The University of Mississippi Facility Management teams have been forced to change how they work since the pandemic hit. New procedures are in place all across the board, from how employees are clocked in to how often they are meant to clean..

The University of Mississippi employs 125 custodians who are tasked with ensuring the university is kept at a high level of cleanliness. Like many professions, work has grown and changed dramatically for custodians since the start of the pandemic. There is a plethora of new measures take in order to ensure cleanliness such as cleaning throughout the day and focusing more on high traffic areas. Many custodians bounce around ad clean a number of buildings throughout their shift. Custodial Supervisor Candi Smith empties mop heads out of an industrial drier. Smith has worked at the university for 17 years.



Students deal with impact of Hurricane Laura

LYDIA JOHNSEY
thedmnews@gmail.com

Although many students in Oxford will remember Hurricane Laura's impact as a rude, ten-minute warning siren at 6 a.m., others were anxiously expecting destruction for their hometowns, hosting their evacuating family and friends and organizing relief efforts for beloved communities.

On August 27, Hurricane Laura made landfall in the United States. It hailed from the Carribean to the Texas-Louisiana border town of Lake Charles, with damaging winds that brought havoc to many surrounding communities.

From there, Laura continued to move across the southeastern United States, seen most apparently in the tornadoes and flash floods extending from Arkansas to the Mid-Atlantic coast throughout the weekend.

Abby Sonnier, a senior public policy leadership major from Lake Charles, stayed up overnight checking in with her parents every hour. She lost contact with them before and after the eye of the storm hit her hometown.

"The Lake Charles I have known since birth will never be there again," Sonnier said. "(But) we will rebuild. Trust me when I say you've never met a more resilient and neighborly group of people,



BILLY SCHUERMAN / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Lightning cracks over the Oxford Courthouse. The tail end of Laura passed over Oxford creating dramatic thunderstorms and leaving damage in its wake.

but it will never be the same. Watching this from 450 miles away was hard. I felt helpless watching my community come back home to find out they had no homes left. I cried, a lot."

After seeing the devastation in her hometown, Sonnier took to fundraising and raised over \$500 in less than an hour to benefit Lake Charles.

In the days before landfall, before the public knew what locations would be hit hard-

est, many students from Texas cities as far west as Houston were expecting to be in the direct path of Laura. Gia Osso, a senior marketing major from downtown Houston, expected the same.

"A lot of people thought that Hurricane Laura was going to hit us pretty hard, but it ended up taking a turn and heading towards Beaumont and Lake Charles," Osso said, "But I am definitely praying for those affected by Hurri-

cane Laura."

Taylor Stansberry, a senior communication science and disorders major from New Orleans, hosted a former high school classmate who had evacuated her apartment near Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge after hearing about tornado and flash flood warnings in the area.

"Her apartment at school floods really easily and her roommate last year even had issues with the flooding and

her car," Stansberry said.

Afraid of floods damaging her car, her friend called and asked if she could evacuate to Oxford.

"In less than an hour after she called, she started driving to Oxford," Stansberry said. Her friend stayed in Oxford for a few days before heading back to Baton Rouge for classes and work.

Abby Newton, a sophomore public policy leadership major from Jackson, recently took a spring break mission trip to Haiti with Pinelake Church. Her mission team, which included students from UM and Mississippi State University, served alongside Hispaniola Mountain Ministries (HMM), a local Hatian ministry that provides education and healthcare to the community. HMM's facilities experienced significant damage from Laura.

"It was heartbreaking to see these streets and buildings and homes that we had been in not even six months ago just in ruin," Newton said, "But it was also comforting to know that we had met the people in the community and saw their constant spirit of joy and reliance on the Lord."

After spreading the word through social media, two friends from Newton's trip raised \$12,000 in two days to rebuild HMM's facilities. The group plans to return to Haiti in the spring.



YOUTH BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL WILL NEVER LOOK THE SAME

For an application to umpire the 2020 season, contact
John Davis at johndavis@oxfordparkcommission.com or
Nathan John at nathan@oxfordparkcommission.com

oxfordparkcommission.com

38013

**THE DM
CLASSIFIEDS
WORK!**

**PLACE YOUR AD HERE!
OR
LOOK HERE FOR AN AD!**

**TRYING TO SELL SOMETHING?
LOOKING FOR A NEW HOME?
NEED A JOB?**

PROTEST

continued from page 1

Players and staff marched almost a mile in the rain from the Manning Center on campus to downtown Oxford in front of the Confederate monument on the Square. The team then gathered around the Confederate monument on the front lawn of the Lafayette County Courthouse to chant “No Justice, No Peace” as well as “Hands up, don’t shoot.”

The Oxford Police Department and the Lafayette County Sheriff’s Department monitored the peaceful protest for about an hour on the Square before relocating the demonstration back to campus without contention, according to tweets from OPD.

Defensive end Ryder Anderson spoke about the frustration in the Black community and the team’s initial uncertainty as to whether they would engage in activism.

“We haven’t talked about it all together as a team yet, but you know, obviously we’ve talked amongst ourselves a



PHOTO COURTESY: MICHAEL FAGANS / SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM AND NEW MEDIA

A member of the University of Mississippi’s football team stands near the Confederate Statue located next to the Lafayette County Court House on Aug. 28, 2020. The march happened on the 57th anniversary of the March on Washington.

little bit,” Anderson said in a press conference on Aug. 26.



“What happened was completely inexcusable, and that’s why you see everything that’s going on in the Black community right now. That’s why everyone is so frustrated. Because that stuff has been happening and is continuing to

happen. It’s just something we’re going to have to continue to fight against.”

Protesting together is nothing new for the Ole Miss football team. Back in June, the team joined together by posting a video to Twitter asking

Lafayette County to remove the Confederate statue from the Square. Following the video, linebacker Momo Sango helped put together the L-O-U-NITED’s March for Progress: Together We Can event.

Currently, in the world of college sports, many teams are beginning to bring awareness to racial injustices in the country by boycotting practices. Programs at Mississippi State and the University of Kentucky have also taken a stand against police brutality by boycotting their practice and protesting the streets of Starkville and Lexington.

The University of Alabama football team is the most recent to follow suit with head coach Nick Saban leading the pack in Tuscaloosa on Monday, Aug. 31. The Crimson Tide had Monday off for practice, but that didn’t stop the athletes and coaches from getting together to make a statement against racial inequality. The team marched from the Mal M. Moore Athletic facility to the Foster Auditorium, where a segregationist once stood at the door in 1963 trying to block two Black students from entering.

This week marks the end of week three of fall camp for Ole Miss football as they continue to prepare for the first game of the season against the Florida Gators on Sept. 26.



Blazing Fast Internet!
ADD TO YOUR PACKAGE FOR ONLY
\$19.99/mo.
where available

BRING EVERYTHING YOU LOVE TOGETHER!



2-YEAR TV PRICE GUARANTEE

\$59.99 MO. for 12 Mos.

America's Top 120 Package
190 CHANNELS
Including Local Channels!

**FREE VOICE REMOTE**
The DSH Voice Remote with the Google Assistant requires internet-connected Hopper, Joy, or Wally device. Customer must press Voice Remote button to activate feature.

**FREE SMART HD DVR INCLUDED**
* Requires eAutopay discount and includes Hopper Duo DVR (\$5 discount for 24 months) or Wally/211

**FREE STREAMING ON ALL YOUR DEVICES**

CALL TODAY - For \$100 Gift Card Promo Code: DISH100

1-877-628-3143






Offer ends 1/31/21.
*All offers require credit qualification, 24-month commitment with early termination fee and eAutopay. Prices include Hopper Duo for qualifying customers. Hopper, Hopper w/Sling or Hopper 3 \$5/mo. more. Upfront fees may apply based on credit qualification.

NOTICE OF ENACTMENT OF UNIVERSITY PARKING RULES & REGULATIONS

The University of Mississippi Department of Parking & Transportation (DPT) in Oxford, Mississippi hereby gives notice of enactment of the University’s Traffic and Parking Regulations for the 2020-2021 academic year. These rules and regulations are enacted by the Board of Trustees of the State Institutions of Higher Learning, State of Mississippi, and are effective from and after July 1, 2020. The full text of such rules and regulations are available at www.olemiss.edu/parking the website of DPT.

START YOUR MORNING OFF RIGHT!

 +  = 

THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

PICK UP YOUR 2020 YEARBOOK!



The yearbook staff did an incredible job documenting a year with so many twists and turns. The theme is REMEMBER US. We know you will be impressed.

Pickup Location:

BISHOP HALL

Pickup Times: Monday-Friday

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Masks are required upon entry.

Bring a copy of your student ID so we can verify that you paid student fees for the 2019-2020 academic year.



BILLY SCHUERMAN / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Members of the Ole Miss Marching Band stand in formation during a rehearsal on Aug. 27, 2020. It is questionable right now whether or not the band will be allowed at football games.

The Pride of the South will play on: how COVID-19 impacted UM band

KELBY ZENDEJAS
thedmsports@gmail.com

The Pride of the South marching band, which many consider an integral part of the Ole Miss football experience, is facing challenges head-on amid uncertainties and ongoing changes in guidelines.

SEC guidelines currently state that on-field band performances before games and during halftime are prohibited, according to an announcement made on Friday. The Pride of the South can still play in stadium seats but with fewer band members than usual and social distancing protocols enforced. The band can no longer travel to away games either — leaving only five home games for them to play.

“To be so publicly ingrained into game-day, we don’t want to miss out on one thing,” Athletic Bands Director Randy Dale said. “We’re going to take whatever’s available and do the best we can.”

Since the delayed start of the season, the band has faced some challenges of its own while still trying to incorporate consistency. Along with the news of no on-field performances, the entire band has split into two groups,

and practice times have been shortened to only two one-hour practices per week. The reason for the separation, according to Dale, was because they did not feel comfortable having 300 or so students coming and going at once.

“Every now and then, I’ll come to the other band’s practice, and I’ll watch them and speak to them from a distance,” bass drummer Michael Ivy said. “I mean it absolutely hurt my feelings because all of my friends are in the first

ing is playing from the stands, then that is something that we’ll take time to work on, but less time,” Dale said. “And so, as long as I find that out fairly soon, we can get (prepared) for that.”

Band camp, an important part of building a community within the band, was cut to five days. On two of the days, not a single note was played, and one day was dedicated to community service. Band members volunteered at the Boys and Girls Club of Oxford,

“To be so publicly ingrained into game-day, we don’t want to miss out on one thing, We’re going to take whatever’s available and do the best we can.”

- Randy Dale
Athletic Band Director

band while I’m in the second band.”

The Daily Mississippian sat in on a recent band practice where the band rehearsed their pregame show. When asked if they would be prepared for the season, Dale said the answer was hard to find since pregame shows had not yet been strictly prohibited by the SEC.

“If all we are going to be do-

took cookies to first responders, sorted through clothes at the pregnancy center, made cards for children at the Blair E. Batson Children’s Hospital in Jackson and even took part in cleaning up the campus after move-in day.

“We thought, you know, if we’ve got some time, why not give some of that time back?” Dale said. “We were already here. We weren’t ready, but

we just felt like we could give a day to do that.”

Spirits are still high, though, as the band is trying to navigate changes. Members said they are excited for this season and dedicated to salvaging their only chances of performing in the stadium.

“We wish we could all be together, but we need to do this so that we can be together in some way possible,” drum major Catherine Adams said. “People have been really supportive and mindful of the implementations that we’ve put in.”

As far as what the band will look like in Vaught-Hemingway this year, each band will rotate performing during scheduled home games and will spread out across forty to forty-five rows, top to bottom.

“It will look very socially distanced,” Dale said. As of now, each band has two games on its schedule. The Egg Bowl is to be determined.

“I’m so excited just to get back to something normal,” trombone player Wade Chapman said. “I mean, it’s the new normal, but I’m excited just to get back in Vaught-Hemingway and to see Coach Kiffin and the team and play for them in front of some fans.”

Fall sports schedule updated

KELBY ZENDEJAS
thedmsports@gmail.com

The Southeastern Conference (SEC) announced updated fall sports start dates and formats for all 14 institutions in the conference on Thursday.

In July, SEC members announced that all fall sports will be postponed until at least Aug. 31, but Ole Miss cross country, soccer, volleyball, tennis and golf now finally know when their fall seasons will begin.

Cross country season will consist of a minimum of two events and a maximum of three events before the SEC Championship in Baton Rouge on Oct. 30. The season starts on Sept. 11 and will continue as previously scheduled until Oct. 23 over a seven-week period. Teams may compete against non-conference schools that adhere to SEC COVID-19 testing protocols.

The SEC soccer season will consist of a conference-only, regular season over an eight-week time frame beginning on Sept. 18. The SEC Championship will be held at Orange Beach, Ala. from November 13-22 where all SEC teams will be guaranteed at least two games in the tournament.

While cross country and soccer begin in September, all volleyball, tennis and golf competitions will begin in October.

SEC volleyball will consist of an eight-match, conference-only schedule over six weeks of competition beginning on Oct. 16. Each team will compete against four opponents twice in the same weekend on back-to-back days.

Both SEC soccer and volleyball will have spring seasons with more details on formats depending on final NCAA decisions on how to conduct spring championships for those sports.

For SEC 2020 fall tennis and golf segments, both men’s and women’s teams may compete in up to three team events no earlier than Oct. 1. Teams will be limited to competing against only SEC opponents or non-conference opponents in the same geographical region.

Lastly, fall practice activities and intra-squad games are permitted for baseball and softball, but exhibition games against outside opponents are prohibited during the 2020 fall semester.

A look into student artist's newest mural

WILL CARPENTER
thedmfeatures@gmail.com

The Oxford Canteen is buzzing with life thanks to a new mural painted by senior Victoria Daily.

Daily, an art major, has been selling her work since she was 15 but is new to painting murals. She recently finished her first mural project in the interior of local restaurant Mi and Tea.

Daily finds her inspiration to paint murals from the time she spent with her uncle, who was paralyzed in a car wreck when she was in fourth grade. The trips to the intensive care unit and other places where people experience grief led her to devote her art to a cause.

"I want to be able to go and brighten up places where people are going through hard things," Daily said. "Maybe one day I'd like to put murals in ICU waiting rooms and places I've seen my family have hard times in."

This new medium has been a learning experience pushing her out of her typical artistic style.

"Most of the time I paint privately in my studio space, so to start doing public art was a little bit nerve-racking, but it's what I'm good at," Daily said. "Once I put the first layer of paint on the wall, I wasn't nervous anymore."

The process of creating a mural for Oxford Canteen took her about a month, with the first week spent talking to potential clients. Once she connected with the Oxford Canteen, Daily spent the next few weeks sketching out different ideas. Corbin Evans, one of the owners of Oxford Canteen, said that the idea of featuring art outside of the restaurant was nothing new.

"We had always thought that wall screamed, 'Mural me!'" And after seeing some really amazing wall murals in other towns like Minneapolis, Nashville and Asheville, we figured we should seriously look into it," Evans said. "We hoped it would brighten that wall space and be a positive artistic landmark for our business, North Lamar and Oxford in general."

According to Daily, it was difficult finding a business that was interested in a nature-centered mural, which is the style of painting she prefers. The Canteen was open to the theme, but rather than a bird idea that Daily originally pitched, the design came from in house.

"In one of our initial meetings, she noticed the bee honeycomb tattoo I have on my arm and took a photo of it," Evans said. "She was then able to create a similar pattern and some of the same coloring of



PHOTO COURTESY: VICTORIA DALY

my tattoo in her final sketch to us and we loved it."

It only took three to four bee and honeycomb sketches before they agreed on the final design. The theme of the mural required a slight shift in style from Daily.

"I like to paint what I would say are more scientific illustrations," Daily said. "But if you think about a three-foot-long bee painted on a wall they actually look kind of intimidating, so we decided to make the bees look fun."

Daily came into contact with the Canteen through biology professor Jason Hoeksema. They have been friends for roughly a year and a half, connecting over bird conser-

vation and avian art while Daily was enrolled in programs and classes that Hoeksema was teaching.

According to Hoeksema, it is highly uncommon for an art student to be enrolled in biology classes, but Daily used the time in the biology courses to hone her skills painting birds.

It was after a presentation Daily gave in Hoeksema's ornithology class last spring that she first expressed her interest in painting murals. Hoeksema took to Facebook and used the connections he had built with local business owners over the past 13 years to advertise Daily's talent.

At least 10 to 12 businesses responded with interest in

commissioning a mural.

"I was really happy with it," Hoeksema said. "There aren't a lot of murals in our area, and I think people really love them. There's a lot of momentum there because of that. There's an open niche."

Hoeksema believes that the demand for Daily's art will probably rise, but that she most likely won't need any more help from him.

"One of the most fulfilling things about my job as a professor at the university is having a chance to make a small difference in helping students to find their career path and be successful in what they want to do," Hoeksema said.

Though Daily plans to focus on graduation and her academics this school year, she looks forward to working on more public art and murals in the future.

"I really like the idea of public art, it's something that can brighten peoples day," Daily said. "I'd like to continue with murals throughout my career because I feel like they reach a lot of people."

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1- Deeply moved;
- 5- Colorado resort;
- 10- Equal a bet;
- 14- Big do;
- 15- Renounce;
- 16- Black-and-white cookie;
- 17- Black, in Bordeaux;
- 18- Maker of Pong;
- 19- ___do-well;
- 20- Dealer in cloth;
- 22- Precedent;
- 24- Arabian republic;
- 25- Key in again;
- 26- He played Ricky;
- 28- Destiny;
- 32- Therefore;
- 35- Pass with flying colors;
- 37- Out, in bed;
- 38- Debussy's "La ___";
- 39- Palpitate;
- 41- Marseilles Mrs.;
- 42- Bully;
- 45- Kind of tide;
- 46- Whispers sweet nothings;
- 47- Mgmt.;
- 48- Emilia's husband;
- 50- Besides;
- 54- Tops;
- 58- Abnormal;

DOWN

- 1- Lustful;
- 2- Preceding, poetically;
- 3- King of Troy;
- 4- Underwater missile;
- 5- Whence one may worship;
- 6- Foster Brooks persona;
- 7- Babble;
- 8- Everglades bird;
- 9- Rip-roaring;
- 10- Hide;
- 11- Scope;
- 12- Dreg;
- 13- Traditional passed-down knowledge;
- 21- Hydrocarbon suffix;
- 23- Toll rds.;
- 25- Having wealth;
- 27- Fill completely;
- 29- San ___, Italy;

SOLUTION TO 8.24 PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20				21		22		23				
24					25							
26				27				28		29	30	31
32	33	34		35		36		37				
38				39				40			41	
42			43	44				45			46	
47								48		49		
50				51	52	53			54		55	56
57												
58	59	60						61				
62				63				64			65	
66				67							68	
69					70							71

- 30- Exec's note;
- 31- Gorillas, chimpanzees and orangutans;
- 32- Jane Austen classic;
- 33- Oboe, e.g.;
- 34- Metric unit of mass;
- 36- Bard's "before";
- 37- Swedish pop band whose hits include "Waterloo";
- 40- Passing notice;
- 43- River pollutant;
- 44- Are you ___ out?;
- 46- Macaroon flavoring;
- 49- Leg;
- 51- Vessel;
- 52- Lulus;
- 53- Preminger et al.;
- 55- Dough;
- 56- Dazzling display;
- 57- Excelled;
- 58- Soprano Gluck;
- 59- Of the highest quality;
- 60- Advantage;
- 61- Witnessed;
- 64- "___ had it!";

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20					21		22		23					
24						25								
26					27				28		29	30	31	
32	33	34			35		36		37					
38					39				40				41	
42				43	44				45				46	
47									48		49			
50					51	52	53			54		55	56	57
58	59	60							61					
62					63				64				65	
66					67								68	
69						70								71

Crossword puzzle provided by BestCrosswords.com (www.bestcrosswords.com). Used with permission.

CLASSIFIEDS INFORMATION

The DEADLINE to place, correct or cancel an ad is 12 p.m. one business day in advance. The Daily Mississippian is published Monday through Friday.

Classified ads must be prepaid. All major credit cards accepted. No refunds on classified ads once published.

The DM reserves the right to refuse ads that appear to offer unrealistic or questionable products or services.

To place your ad in The Daily Mississippian Classifieds section, visit: <http://www.thedmonline.com/classifieds>.

RENTALS

APARTMENT FOR RENT
BETWEEN SQUARE AND CAMPUS 403 S. 5th. 2 spacious bedroom. 1 bath. \$980 month \$200 off first months rent 662-832-0117

APARTMENT FOR RENT
VERY NICE APARTMENT
One Block from the Square.
1405 Jackson Ave East
2 to 3 tenants
Call 662 801-4665 or 662 380-3802

SUDOKU®

Puzzles by KrazyDad

	2	4	3	8				
					6			7
	5	8				4		
4				1				
			7		5			
				2				8
		1				6	7	
3			5					
				4	9	2	1	

HOW TO PLAY

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 with no repeats.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL INTERMEDIATE

3	1	2	6	4	9	5	7	8
4	8	6	1	7	5	2	9	3
5	7	9	8	3	2	1	4	6
8	9	3	4	2	6	7	1	5
6	4	1	5	9	7	3	8	2
2	5	7	3	1	8	9	6	4
9	3	4	2	6	1	8	5	7
7	2	8	6	5	4	9	3	1
1	6	5	7	8	3	4	2	9

OPINION

Government intervention has gone too far during the pandemic

LAUREN MOSES
thedmopinion@gmail.com

Since mid-March, government response to the coronavirus has been wide and sweeping. States like California, New York and New Jersey are still enforcing strict stay-at-home orders while others such as Florida, Texas and Mississippi have allowed citizens more discretion. Given the varying responses by the government from state to state, we have seen that state and local government, as well as the university, have overstepped their duty to citizens and set arbitrary guidelines counterintuitive to their goal.

Most frustrating in the creation of stay-at-home orders is that arbitrary guidelines stripped away freedom from everyday citizens. Governors

enacted quarantine protocols to “flatten the curve” and allow medical professionals and hospitals time to prepare for a massive increase in cases as the virus made its way through communities. But once these medical institutions prepared for an uptick, states remained closed down.

In Michigan, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer served as a prime example of an abuse of power. Moving swiftly once the virus hit American soil, Whitmer shut down almost all businesses in the state. When renewing her executive order a few weeks later, restrictions on buying home improvement supplies and gardening equipment were still in place. Protesters flooded the capitol building, begging for their freedom back.

The responsibility of the government to its citizens is more exhaustive than mitigating the threat caused by COVID-19 on a minority of vulnerable communities. There exists a real duty to ensure that citizens have a livelihood and can engage in economic activity. Shuttered states forced small businesses into bankruptcy, destroying more lives economically than could have possibly been lost by the virus.

This does not mean that vulnerable communities should not be protected. As with every disease, including the flu, those most vulnerable should take precautions to protect themselves. Sick individuals should stay home and avoid public interaction until they are well. That is common

sense. Such procedures guide social norms for every disease.

Another maddening aspect of these executive orders is that they lack clarity and effectiveness. Why can Black Lives Matter protestors flood the streets of cities across the country, but churches cannot conduct worship services? Regardless of political beliefs, it does not make sense to give certain individuals freedom to gather while limiting other groups of people.

The university has fallen prey to the same ridiculous standards on a smaller scale. In the union, one can eat their lunch without a mask. But the person at the next table must wear a mask because they are working on their computer and not eating. Other than food being present, what is

the difference? Surely the person eating cannot be more of a threat to others than the person working if everyone is sitting six feet apart.

It is time to stand up to the government and institutions that sacrifice civil liberties and freedom for the “health and safety” of a small vulnerable community. Wise leaders have faith in their constituents to make informed decisions, knowing the consequences of their actions. Reopen the country and let citizens make the best decisions for themselves and their families.

Lauren Moses is a senior from Coppell, TX studying Economics and Political Science.

Guest column: A perspective on protests from a former Minneapolis resident

DAVID THIGPEN
thedmopinion@gmail.com

I had an odd experience that happened recently during the Black Lives Matter protests this summer. I purchased something in Oxford, and while the payment was processing, the Black woman behind the counter grabbed the stuff I purchased to help me take it to the car. When I asked her why, she said it was something to do.

The United States is complicated when it comes to the relationship between different groups, but small moments like that make me think that we are not that far apart.

A lot of people are critical of cops, but I’m not. I was in a ride-along with police from the Oxford Police Department (OPD) a cou-

ple of years ago and watched a police stop that was almost identical to the situation of the shooting of Philando Castile, who is Black, in Minnesota. The difference between the two is that the OPD handled it properly. The police officer secured the gun, wrote the ticket for obstruction of the tag, and everyone left alive. It was all enhanced by having a backup car show up shortly after the stop. So, the Castile situation was purely a training and cultural issue within the police department in Minnesota.

A lot of the problems that relate to what happened to George Floyd were going to happen eventually. The events of the Floyd murder relate back to problems in Minneapolis and the various cultural differences that exist within the great melting pot that is Min-

neapolis.

I spent a lot of nights a couple of years ago walking back to Saint Paul from 38th and Lyndale in Minneapolis. This was where I had the choice of the most direct route down 38th, where Floyd died, to the Ford Parkway Bridge or walking up Lyndale and across Lake Street, where the riots destroyed the places that represented many memories I had from dates long past.

When the riots happened, I felt despondent. I knew exactly where the reporters were when the rioters were shooting rockets into the police department in the third precinct because I used to walk by there on the way home. I knew all of the restaurants and stores that were hit by looting as well. When the marchers walked down Summit Avenue, they were

marching one block off of where I lived when I lived in Saint Paul. One block off the area that I represented as a precinct chair. It was surreal to watch.

One thing that I am appreciative of is that Minnesota provides an extraordinarily low hurdle to getting involved in politics and the broader community. In my case, you could have no ambition for it, and somehow find yourself

in a political position. It is a crazy place but in a good way. It has in it in some ways the crazy we need. I wish them well, and I still love Minnesota. One of my friends in a phone call said that they loved me back, and, for that, I say thanks.

David Thigpen is a graduate student from Jackson, Mississippi.

Opinion Policies:

Columns do not represent the views of The University of Mississippi or The Daily Mississippian. The Daily Mississippian welcomes letters to the editor, which should be emailed to dmletters@olemiss.edu. Letters should be no longer than 300 words. They may be edited for clarity, brevity and libel. Third-party letters and those with pseudonyms or no name will not be published. Letters are limited to one per individual per month. Letters should include contact information, including relationship to the university, if applicable.



NEED MORE NEWS?

Visit thedmonline.com for breaking news on Oxford and the Ole Miss campus

While you're there, sign up for **The Morning Briefing**, our newsletter with the top news of the day.

QUARANTINE

continued from page 1

clarified that our options were to leave campus or quarantine in our rooms,” Ossoski said, adding that she was not offered quarantine housing when student housing called her at around noon today.

Director of Student Hous-

ing John Yaun sent an email yesterday to students on the second floor of Crosby that said they needed to quarantine because four members of the floor tested positive.

The email says that the students will receive a call from student housing in the next business days to discuss their quarantine options.

“We encourage you to con-

sult with your family to consider your options for quarantine, including returning to your family residence,” the email reads, adding that if students need to “consider other options,” they must quarantine in their room until they are contacted by student housing.

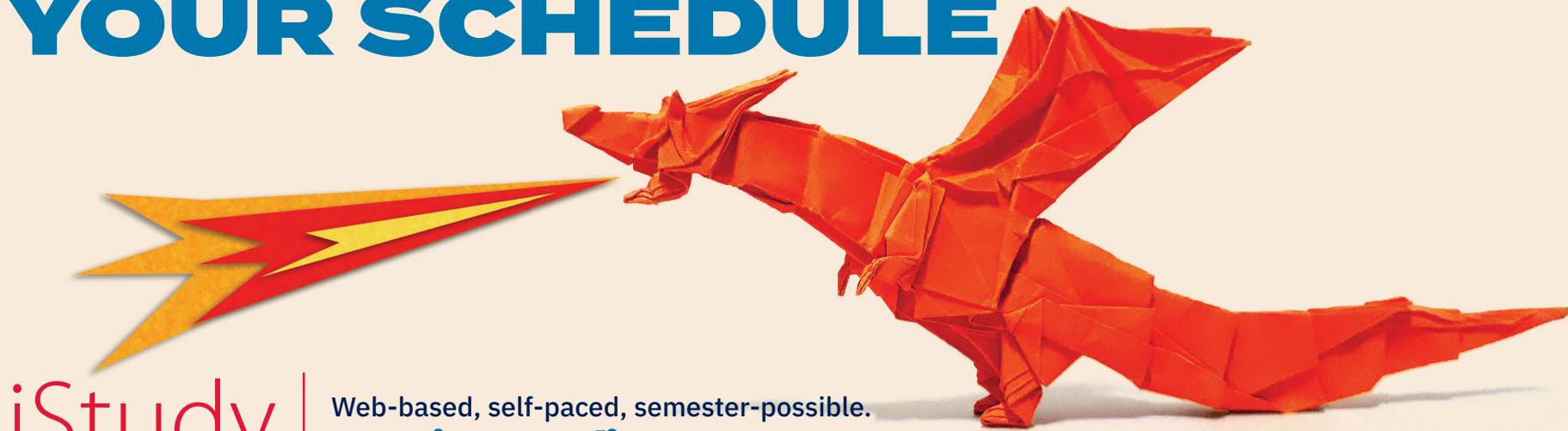
However, emails from the university to quarantined res-

idents of Martin Hall earlier this week said their options were to return home, relocate to somewhere off-campus or stay in quarantine housing provided by the university. The email sent to Crosby residents did not include these choices, instead stating that student housing will call them to discuss their options.

Since the publication of

this story, the university has changed the title of this section of its COVID-19 dashboard to indicate that it only shows the number of students who decide to stay in quarantine housing and a university spokesperson said that the university has decided to let students quarantine in their dorm rooms to maximize available quarantine spaces.

HOW TO TAME YOUR SCHEDULE



iStudy

Web-based, self-paced, semester-possible.
olemiss.edu/istudy

38018

WESLEY

ole miss wesley



BIBLE STUDIES
& FELLOWSHIP

WORSHIP
TUESDAYS @ 6



@olemisswesley



JOIN US THIS FALL!

YOUR CAMPUS MINISTRY HOME

All at the Wesley House

425 W Jackson Ave.

38014